

Wabash Plain Dealer

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WEEKEND EDITION November 9-10, 2019



45

34



Wabash Plain Dealer's new office now open

The Wabash Plain Dealer's new office is now open on the second floor at 99 W. Canal St.

VFW to host breakfast on Nov. 9

VFW Post #286 Wabash will be hosting a breakfast beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 9. All veterans eat free. Open to the public. Come join us as we honor our Veterans. Look for us at local businesses all weekend with our annual Poppy Drive, too.

VFW to host Veterans Day weekend concert

VFW Post #286 Wabash will host a concert from 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Nov. 9. Come honor and support our veterans and enjoy music by The Prime Suspects. Food, raffles, cold drinks, rock 'n' roll music and more will be available.

'Paper Making with Plants' event planned

Learn plant-based paper-making skills during a two-hour workshop, "Paper Making with Plants," at 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9 at the Salamonie Interpretive Center, 3691 S. New Holland Road, Andrews. Call 260-468-2127 to register. Limited space is available. The cost is \$5 per person payable day of the event.

Holiday Bazaar planned for Saturday, Nov. 9

Zion Lutheran Church is planning a Holiday Bazaar from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9 at 173 Hale Drive. Decorations, crafts, raffle, noodles, gift items, baked items and candy will be available.

Woman's Clubhouse plans November luncheon

The Woman's Clubhouse will host the monthly luncheon at noon Tuesday, Nov. 12. They will welcome Rick Elliott and Bob Brown for an afternoon of show tunes and a little pre-Holiday sing-a-long. Make your reservations with Carol McDonald, 260-563-2331 or Mary Delauter, 260-563-6613 by Saturday, Nov. 9.

Walorski to speak at Veterans Day celebration

Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-Indiana, will deliver remarks at the Veterans Day program set for 11 a.m. Monday on the north lawn of the Wabash County Courthouse. These services are open to the public and are being conducted by the veterans' organizations of

See PULSE / Page A4

Inside

Classified, B5 Obituaries, A3
Comics, B4 Sports, B1
Community, A3 Viewpoint, A5
Crossword, B4 Weather, A2



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Canal Street construction



PHOTOS BY ROB BURGESS / Plain Dealer

CONSTRUCTION: If you've been downtown this week, you may have noticed part of Canal Street closed due to construction.



DIGGING: The sewer portion was started Monday and finished on Tuesday.

Water main repair closed part of road this week

BY ROB BURGESS
rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com

If you've been downtown this week, you may have noticed part of Canal Street closed due to construction.

In response to a Plain Dealer request Wednesday, the city of Wabash referred questions to Wabash Woolen Works owner Lisa Gilman.

In response to a Plain Dealer request Thursday, Gilman stated she owned the buildings at 78 and 80 W. Market St.

"I did a major restoration. The restoration required new water main to the building. The old sewer hookup was obsolete and

that had to be redone as well because they were very old and no longer met the requirements for the new use," she stated.

Gilman stated the sewer main is located in the southern lane 22 feet under Canal Street.

"We had to dig very carefully to reach it as there were other pipes in the way that the utility locators did not know existed," she stated.

Gilman stated the sewer portion was started Monday and finished on Tuesday.

"Then the water connection was started. That should be completed very



SEWER: The sewer main is located in the southern lane 22 feet under Canal Street.

soon. The asphalt contractor will repave the areas where we had to excavate," she stated.

Gilman stated the construction project was private and that no public

money was involved.

In a Friday morning statement to the Plain Dealer, Gilman stated Canal Street was once again open.

"Everything looks great," she stated.

Over 8 tons of unwanted medications collected

Local, state, federal agencies participated in Take Back Day

BY ROB BURGESS
rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com

On Saturday, Oct. 26, Hoosiers participated in the 18th nationwide Prescription Drug Take Back Day by visiting Indiana State Police (ISP) posts, locations sponsored by the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency (IPLA) and the Indiana Board of Pharmacy, and other sites across the state, according to a Wednesday statement from First Sergeant Ron Galaviz, ISP assistant chief public information officer.

In response to a Plain Dealer request Thursday, Sgt. Tony Slocum, public information officer for the ISP Peru post, stated there had been approximately 35 pounds collected at his

location alone.

Statewide, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reports that Hoosiers safely disposed of 16,483 pounds of unused medication.

The IPLA and the Indiana Board of Pharmacy received 1,125 pounds of prescription medication.

Collectively, the ISP received 1,488 pounds of unused, expired or unwanted medications for proper disposal.

"In partnership with the DEA, the drug take back initiative seeks to prevent prescription drug abuse and theft through proper disposal of prescription drugs. 88 sites across Indiana partnered with the DEA to collect unused medication," stated Galaviz.

For more information about the bi-annual "Prescription Drug Take Back Day" or to find year-round disposal locations visit <https://takebackday.dea.gov/>.

Holidays to be welcomed with an annual open house

Honeywell House event set for Sunday, Nov. 24

Staff Report

To mark the beginning of the holiday season, the Honeywell House will host its annual Holiday Open House from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 24, at 720 N. Wabash St., according to a press release.

The Wabash Unit of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra Association sponsors this celebratory event.

"Guests are invited to tour the house to see the festive holiday decorations adorning each room and enjoy a delicious treat from the beautifully laden dining table," stated the release.

Beginning at 1:30 p.m., students of the Southwood Junior-Senior High School choir will perform a medley of holiday favorites under the direction of Susan Keefer, with piano accompaniment provided by Gail Vaughn.

Eileen Dye and Carolyn Eppley will provide piano music before and after the choir performance.

Docents will be on hand to talk about the many treasures that fill the house.

The Honeywell House is free and open to the public.

For more information about this event or other upcoming events visit the Honeywell House website at www.honeywellhouse.org/programs-and-events, or call 260-563-1102.

Zay, Wolkins to host INDOT Indiana 24 project town hall

Meeting set for Saturday, Nov. 23, at the Honeywell Center

Staff Report

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-Huntington, will host a town hall meeting along with State Rep. Dave Wolkins, R-Warsaw, to discuss the update on the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) Indiana 24 project, according to a press release.

The project in question is planned for Lagro at the intersection of Indiana 24 and County Road 300 East.

The town hall has been planned for 8 to 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 23, at the Honeywell Center's Honeywell Room, 275 W. Market St.

"Zay encourages residents of Senate District 17 to attend and offer comments on this project as well as other concerns for the upcoming legislative session," stated the release.

Winter Weather Preparedness Week tips

Hoosiers are encouraged to prepare for frigid temperatures

Staff Report

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) encourages Hoosiers to use Winter Weather Preparedness Week, from Nov. 10 to 16, as an opportunity to properly prepare for upcoming winter weather, according to a press release.

During winter, Hoosiers should always monitor local radio, TV stations and social media for weather updates. It is also important to understand the differences between watches, warnings and advisories:

Watch: Winter weather is possible.

Advisory: Winter weather will begin soon, but conditions are less serious than a warning.

Warning: Severe winter weather will begin soon.

The National Weather Service reports 36 Americans died due to cold weather in 2018. Prolonged exposure to bitterly cold temperatures increases the chances of cold weather illnesses like frostbite and hypothermia. Common symptoms of winter weather related illnesses include:

- Uncontrolled shivering
- Discoloration of the skin
- Fatigue

Winter travel safety

Winter weather creates hazardous travel conditions, and IDHS encourages Hoosiers to limit traveling during severe winter weather as much as possible. If driving is unavoidable, Hoosiers should consider:

- Downloading the County Travel Advisory Map in the App Store and Google Play Store to see

See WINTER / Page A2

Facebook is deleting the name of the potential whistleblower

BY BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP Technology Writer

Facebook says it is deleting the name of the person who has been identified in conservative circles as the whistleblower who triggered a congressional impeachment inquiry into President Donald Trump’s actions.

The company said Friday that mention of the potential whistleblower’s name violates Facebook’s “coordinating harm policy,” which prohibits material that could out a “witness, informant, or activist.”

Facebook says it is removing mentions of the whistle-

blower’s name and will revisit this decision if the name is widely published in the media or used by public figures in debate.

U.S. whistleblower laws exist to protect the identity and careers of people who bring forward accusations of wrongdoing by government officials. Lawmakers in both parties have historically backed those protections. The Associated Press typically does not reveal the identity of whistleblowers.

Several people on Twitter appear to have named the whistleblower in tweets that are still up as of Friday.

Twitter did not immediately respond to messages for comment on Friday.

So far, President Donald Trump has avoided identifying the whistleblower by name. Exposing whistleblowers can be dicey, even for a president. For one thing, doing so could be a violation of federal law.

While there’s little chance Trump could face charges, revealing the name could give Democrats more impeachment fodder. It could also prompt a backlash among some Senate Republicans who have long defended whistleblowers.

Mercury putting on rare show Monday, parading across the sun

BY MARCIA DUNN
AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Mercury is putting on a rare celestial show next week, parading across the sun in view of most of the world.

The solar system’s smallest, innermost planet will resemble a tiny black dot Monday as it passes directly between Earth and the sun. It begins at 7:35 a.m. EST.

The entire 5½-hour event will be visible, weather permitting, in the eastern U.S. and Canada, and all Central and South America.

The rest of North America, Europe and Africa will catch part of the action. Asia and Australia will miss out.

Unlike its 2016 transit, Mercury will score a near bull’s-eye this time, passing practically dead center in front of our star.

Mercury’s next transit isn’t until 2032, and North America won’t get another viewing opportunity until 2049. Earthlings get treated to just 13 or

14 Mercury transits a century.

You’ll need proper eye protection for Monday’s spectacle: Telescopes or binoculars with solar filters are recommended.

There’s no harm in pulling out the eclipse glasses from the total solar eclipse across the U.S. two years ago, but it would take “exceptional vision” to spot minuscule Mercury, said NASA solar astrophysicist Alex Young.

Mercury is 3,000 miles in diameter, compared with the sun’s 864,000 miles. During its 2012 transit of the sun, larger and closer Venus was barely detectable by Young with his solar-viewing glasses.

“That’s really close to the limit of what you can see,” he said earlier this week. “So Mercury’s going to probably be too small.”

Venus transits are much rarer. The next one isn’t until 2117.

Mercury will cut a diagonal path left to right across the

sun on Monday, entering at bottom left (around the 8 hour mark on a clock) and exiting top right (around the 2 hour mark).

Although the trek will appear slow, Mercury will zoom across the sun at roughly 150,000 mph.

NASA will broadcast the transit as seen from the orbiting Solar Dynamics Observatory, with only a brief lag. Scientists will use the transit to fine-tune telescopes, especially those in space that cannot be adjusted by hand, according to Young.

It’s this kind of transit that allows scientists to discover alien worlds. Periodic, fleeting dips of starlight indicate an orbiting planet.

“Transits are a visible demonstration of how the planets move around the sun, and everyone with access to the right equipment should take a look,” Mike Cruise, president of the Royal Astronomical Society, said in a statement from England.

WINTER

Continued from A1

county travel statuses from emergency management agencies across Indiana.

■ Creating an emergency preparedness kit for every vehicle. A few suggested items for kits include blankets, non-perishable food, jumper cables and spare winter clothing.

■ Schedule an appointment with a mechanic for a thorough check of each vehicle before a winter storm hits. Important items to have checked include brakes, the battery and tires.

Home heating safety

Alternative heating sources are popular during the winter, but are also one of the leading causes of house fires in the U.S. Indiana State Fire Marshal Stephen Cox urges Hoosiers using alternative heating sources to practice proper heating safety and maintenance:

■ Home appliances, such as ovens, should never be used for heating. Doing so can lead to carbon monoxide poisoning.

■ Use only dry, seasoned

wood in a fireplace or wood stove to avoid the buildup of creosote. Do not use artificial logs in wood stoves.

■ Keep all flammable materials, such as draperies, blankets, bedding or upholstered furniture, at least three feet away from space heaters and other types of heating equipment.

Snow, ice, high winds and extreme cold conditions are also capable of causing power outages. If the power goes out during winter weather, follow these tips until profes-

sionals can make repairs:

■ Gather warm blankets, sleeping bags and clothing layers to help household members stay warm.

■ Insulate rooms with blankets or other barrier materials over windows and doors.

■ Know how to determine if it is safe to travel and know where to go should the power go out. Identify a friend or family members house, or a nearby shelter.

For more winter weather preparedness information, visit GetPrepared.in.gov.

THE ROXY
MOVIE THEATER

Showtimes for Friday, November 8– Thursday, November 14
All showtimes have Closed Captioning available.

Doctor Sleep (R)
Fri: 6:20, 9:15
Sat: 12:35, 3:30, 6:20, 9:15
Sun: 12:35, 3:30, 6:20
Mon– Thurs: 6:20

Playing with Fire (PG)
Fri: 6:50, 9:35
Sat: 1:05, 3:50, 6:50, 9:35
Sun: 1:05, 3:50, 6:50
Mon– Thurs: 6:50

Maleficent: Mistress Of Evil in 2D (PG)
Fri: 7:00, 9:45
Sat: 1:15, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45
Sun: 1:15, 4:00, 7:00
Mon– Thurs: 7:00

Last Christmas (PG13)
Fri: 6:40, 9:05
Sat: 12:55, 4:10, 6:40, 9:05
Sun: 12:55, 4:10, 6:40
Mon– Thurs: 6:40

Terminator: Dark Fate (R)
Fri: 6:30, 9:25
Sat: 12:45, 3:40, 6:30, 9:25
Sun: 12:45, 3:40, 6:30
Mon– Thurs: 6:30

For more information please call
765-460-5322
or visit us online at www.roxyperu.com
Located at 100 Roxy Lane, North edge of Peru

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New Location
Grand Opening
Thursday, Nov. 21st
8am - 6pm
FOOD & PRIZES ALL DAY

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5-Day Weather Summary

Saturday
Mostly Cloudy
45 / 34

Sunday
Mostly Cloudy
47 / 28

Monday
Scattered Snow
30 / 13

Tuesday
Chance Snow Showers
25 / 11

Wednesday
Mostly Cloudy
29 / 21

Sun and Moon
Today's sunset 5:35 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 7:29 a.m.

Full
11/12

Last
11/19

New
11/26

First
12/4

Detailed Local Outlook
Today we will see mostly cloudy skies, high of 45°, humidity of 45%. South southwest wind 11 to 17 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight, overnight low of 34°. Southwest wind 6 to 11 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 28°. Sunday, skies will be mostly cloudy, high of 47°, humidity of 63%.

Sister thinks widowed mom should stay single

DEAR HARRIETTE: My father died a few years ago, and my mother told me that she has met someone who has been taking her to dinner. She wanted to make sure my sister and I would be OK with that. She and my father were married for 35 years, but he is gone.

We miss him, but I don't think she should be restricted from dating. She is still vivacious but also lonely. My sister doesn't agree. She says my mother should never date again. She had one love, and that's enough. I think it's none of my sister's business. How can I referee this? – Widow Ready to Date

Harriette Cole
Sense & Sensitivity

DEAR WIDOW READY TO DATE: Get tough with your sister. She needs a reality check. Your mother deserves to have some joy in her life. Who knows if she will ever get married again? That's not the point right now. What is at stake is your mother's happiness. Help your sister to understand that your mother's happiness is linked to how you react to her new life. Encourage your sister to welcome your mother's new beau or to back off. She should not pass judgement as she has no idea how challenging it is to walk in your mother's shoes.

If your sister is concerned about this man or any man running away with your mother's wealth or your father's legacy, suggest that she address those things. She can do so independent of your mother's date. She can point out that it is wise for your mother to protect herself. Talking to an attorney to set up her affairs is a wise idea. Your mother will hear her better if she is not judgmental.

DEAR HARRIETTE: I was looking at social media

READERS' CHOICE REPORTS
THURSDAY'S LOTTERIES

Cash 5
11-12-19-27-32
Estimated jackpot: \$126,500
Cash4Life
06-17-32-45-47, Cash Ball: 2
Quick Draw Midday
01-06-07-15-19-21-31-33-35-36-38-46-48-51-56-64-67-69-73-76, BE: 51
Daily Three-Midday
2-6-7, SB: 2
Daily Three-Evening
9-8-1, SB: 7
Daily Four-Midday
3-1-7-6, SB: 2
Daily Four-Evening
0-9-3-6, SB: 7
Quick Draw Evening
03-11-13-16-27-31-33-36-42-45-52-53-57-59-63-68-71-75-76-77, BE: 11
Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$145 million
Powerball
Estimated jackpot: \$50 million

FRIDAY'S METALS
Aluminum82
Copper 2.72
Lead95
Zinc 1.15
Gold 1,462.94
Silver 16.89
Platinum 890.64

AREA GRAIN
Estimated grain prices
Friday at Indianapolis-area elevators: Corn \$4.01, Soybeans \$8.99.

and noticed that a friend of mine had a huge party and didn't invite me. As I looked at the photos, I got really sad. I knew everybody I saw in the photos. It made me wonder why she wouldn't have included me. It wasn't like the party was for a particular cause or that it had a high price. It looked like it was just a really special get-together. What should I do? Part of me wants to write on her page to say, "Why didn't you invite me?" I know that seems sad and desperate. But I feel sad. Would it be OK to say, "Looks like a lot of fun," or, "Wow, what a great event!" At least then I would let her know that I see the party, and she will obviously know that I wasn't invited. What should I do? – Not Invited

DEAR NOT INVITED: I like your idea of graciously writing on your friend's social media page. By acknowledging how great the event seemed, you will let her know that you saw it and that you thought it was great. You should avoid being catty. Do not say that you are sad you weren't invited.

Even more, don't be sad. You cannot be invited to everything. So you missed this one. If you want to be invited to more events, get out there and network more. The invites will follow.

Harriette Cole is a stylist and founder of DREAMLEAPERS, an initiative to help people access and activate their dreams. You can send questions to askharriette@harriettecole.com or c/o Andrews McMeel Syndication, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106.

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‘It’s all history now’

Like birds at the end of summer, a half-dozen airplanes in the fleet belonging to the Service Motor Company left Wabash 100 years ago this week and headed to a warmer climate for the winter. A component of mechanics and support staff followed by automobile, and another five aircraft awaited shipment by rail. All were headed for Fort Worth, Texas, where the company had moved its aviation school until warm weather returned to Wabash.

Pete Jones



It made sense for the Wabash company to move its operations out of winter’s way in Indiana. The fragile, open-cockpit planes were no match for high winds and snow. The Service Motor Company’s factory was on Stitt Street on the site that General Tire & Rubber would later occupy. When the firm established an aviation division it built an airstrip, hanger and assembly building at what would later be the northwest corner of Cass Street and Harrison Avenue. From that location Service Motor operated an aviation training school and a charter air company. Airplanes soon became a common sight in skies over Wabash. The aviation divi-

sion captured the fancy of Wabash residents who turned out in crowds of a few thousand on Sunday afternoons when the company conducted test flights at the airfield. Chief Pilot J.P. Porter’s plane was the first to lift off at mid-morning on Nov. 3, 1919. The other aircraft followed in quick succession, all headed for Rantoul, Illinois, where the US Army operated an early airbase known as Chanute Field. From there it was on to St. Louis and then to Kansas City. A day’s stop in each city provided time for exhibition flights and a chance to market the company charter air service. When the airplanes reached Kansas City on Nov. 5, Por-

ter telegraphed the following message back to the home office: “Straight through to Kansas City (from Kansas City). No stops except for gasoline and oil. Machines in good shape. Flying against bad winds, but making good time.” The planes came winging their way back home in May 1920.

On this day

Interest in the happenings of The Great Wallace Show, a premier circus with headquarters in Peru, was always high in Wabash. On Nov. 9, 1912, The Plain Dealer reprinted a story from the Peru Chronicle telling of the show’s return to its winter quarters south of Peru after a

summer on the road. The show’s circus trains unloaded in the rail yards on the north edge of the business district. And wagons and animals alike headed south on Broadway toward the big barns south of the city. The process took from eight o’clock in the morning until near nightfall. “There was an almost constant rumbling of heavy wagons as they passed over the brick-paved streets, and they attracted nearly as much attention as they did on the opening day of the circus season back in April,” said the article. “About 10 o’clock the elephants and camels were led down Broadway ... There were 14 elephants, and they

huddled together in a compact body...All the animals off the menagerie were hurried to their warm quarters at the circus farm and transferred to their winter cages,” the story continued. The reporter noted that some of the circus equipment looked a little worse for the wear of the just-concluded season, but he or she gave assurance that the show’s repair shop would have every bit of paraphernalia bright and shiny by spring when it was time to take to the road once more. Pete Jones writes a weekly column on local history for the Wabash Plain Dealer. He writes about people, places and events in and around Wabash County. Contact him by mail at 1160 Sunset Drive, Wabash, IN 46992 or by email at peteinwabash@comcast.net.

Wabash Army veteran finds career at Walmart

Retailer aims to employ more veterans through hiring program

Staff Report

Walmart stores around the country will recognize Veterans Day on Monday, Nov. 11, according to a press release. “For the Supercenter in Wabash though, it means a bit more,” stated the release. Wabash resident Joe Bradley is an Army veteran and active member of Air National Guard. Bradley also happens to be an assistant store manager at his local Walmart. While enlisted in the Army, Bradley served with 1-293 out of Fort Wayne and was also in the main land combat force of the Army. He was deployed to help along the Gulf of Mexico following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, and he served a tour in Iraq. “Each time I was deployed I would come home and have to start my job search again,” stated Bradley. “One day I saw an article about Walmart’s Veterans Welcome Home Commitment program and I knew this would be the perfect fit for me.” On Memorial Day 2013, Walmart introduced the Veterans Welcome Home Commitment, which guaranteed a job offer to any eligible, honorably discharged U.S. veteran who was within 12 months of active duty. Walmart’s original goal was hiring 100,000 veterans by the end of 2018. In May 2015, Walmart revised its goal to hiring 250,000 veterans by the end of 2020. “Our country’s veterans are dedicated, hard workers and we are proud to employ some of our nation’s heroes,” stated Justin Ramsey, Wabash store manager. “We are committed to helping these men and women, like Joe, through job opportunities, as well as support for programs that provide the job training, reintegration support and education.” Walmart also changed the eligibility under the Welcome Home Commitment from within 12 months of



ARMY: Wabash resident Joe Bradley is an Army veteran and active member of Air National Guard.



ASSISTANT MANAGER: Joe Bradley also happens to be an assistant store manager at his local Walmart.



TOUR: While enlisted in the Army, Bradley served with 1-293 out of Fort Wayne and was also in the main land combat force of the Army. He was deployed to help along the Gulf of Mexico following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, and he served a tour in Iraq.

active duty, to any veteran who was honorably discharged since the announcement of their commitment, which included Bradley. “With Walmart’s Veterans Welcome Home commitment, store leadership can work around Joe’s drill and service days with the Air Guard. Joe continues

to advance his career with Walmart and he and his family can rest easy knowing his job isn’t at risk with Walmart,” stated the release. To learn more about the Veterans Welcome Home commitment, visit <https://corporate.walmart.com/global-responsibility/veterans-military-families>.



WABASH: Bradley poses with his family.

Indiana agency to regulators: Deny Duke’s rate increase

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — An Indiana agency advised regulators to deny Duke Energy’s request to increase average monthly charges by as much as \$23 per customer, countering that fees should instead be lowered. Indiana’s Office of Utility Consumer Counselor Bill Fine has recommended that the utility reduce its average charges by nearly \$8 a month, yet another push back Indiana’s largest utility was dealt since it proposed a rate increase.

Duke Energy in July asked the state Utility Regulatory Commission to approve a 15 percent rate increase over two years that would boost its annual revenue by about \$395 million. Consumer groups have said the company hasn’t been transparent about how it determined the proposed rate increase, the Indianapolis Star reported Thursday. Duke Energy has said it provided the necessary paperwork and disagrees with the counselor’s recommendation.

Duke spokeswoman Angeline Protogere said the rate cases are legal proceedings that unsurprisingly have “adversarial positions like this.” The utility said the proposed increase is to accommodate customer growth, update a grid and transition to cleaner energy. The consumer counselor’s office, Citizens Action Coalition, Sierra Club, Walmart, Kroger and other big customers have asked the IURC to order Duke to refile all its rate case paperwork and exhib-

its, with formulas and linked spreadsheets. But utility regulators, who are also appointed by the governor – sided with the company, denying the motion. Protogere said the denial shows Duke has met the regulatory commission’s requirements and best practices for filing its rate case. The utility has “gone above and beyond what is required,” she added. It was not immediately known when final rates would be approved.

Indiana medical coverage lags surrounding states

FORT WAYNE (AP) — Indiana had a higher percentage of people lacking medical insurance than any neighboring state in 2018. The U.S. Census Bureau said Thursday that 8.3 percent of the state’s residents were uninsured last year, while only 5.4 percent were not covered in Michigan and 5.6 percent in Kentucky. Director of the Community Research Institute at Purdue University Fort Wayne Rachel Blakeman says Kentucky and Michigan have been aggres-

sively expanding Medicaid programs. The Census Bureau said 43.5 percent of Kentuckians had Medicare or Medicaid last year, the figure for Indiana was 33.8 percent. Blakeman says a strong economy has played a big role in lowering uninsured rates as more people are working for employers that provide insurance. The Journal Gazette reports Ohio and Illinois also had lower uninsured rates than Indiana. Ohio was at 6.5 percent in 2018 and Illinois was at 7 percent.



Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service

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Paul Byron Preston

Oct. 31, 1929 - Nov. 7, 2019

Paul Byron Preston, 90, of Wabash, Indiana, died at 1 a.m., Thursday, Nov. 7, 2019 at Parkview Wabash Hospital. He was born Oct. 31, 1929 in Mingo, Kentucky to Claude and Fannie (Davis) Preston.

Paul retired from General Motors in Warren, Michigan after 29 years as a security officer. He married Joyce Preston on Aug. 26, 1950; she died Nov. 13, 2004. Paul was a member of Grace Fellowship Church in Wabash. He enjoyed fishing, and hunting.

He is survived by 2 daughters, Susie Preston of Delray Beach, Florida and Anita Preston of St. Clair Shores, Michigan, grandson, Robert Paul (Keli) Preston, Jr. of Katy, Texas, 4 great-grandchildren, 2 brothers, Lyman Joe Preston of Wabash, and Herman (Ann) Preston of Kendallville, Indiana. He was also



preceded in death by his parents, son, Robert Paul Preston, Sr., daughter, Clara “Libby” Preston, 4 brothers, and grandson, Jefferson Jacob Preston.

Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m., Thursday, Nov. 14, 2019 at Grace Fellowship Church, 4652 S 100 W, Wabash Indiana 46992, with Lou Hunt officiating. Friends may call 4 - 7 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 13, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Ave., Wabash and one hour prior to the service at the church. Graveside services will be 11 am, Friday, Nov. 15, 2019 at Frontier Cemetery, Frontier, Michigan.

Preferred memorial is Grace Fellowship Building Fund.

The memorial guest book for Paul may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Orma J. Gaston

Services for Orma J. Gaston, 85, formerly of Urbana, Indiana, were 2 p.m. Friday, Nov. 8, 2019, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash. David Stokes officiated and Susan Vanlandingham was the musician.

Burial was in Falls Cemetery, Wabash. Pallbearers were her three sons, Max Gaston, Larry D. Gaston, and Grimes Russell Gaston, and three grandsons, Matthew Gaston, Grimes R. Gaston and Benjamin Grimes Gaston.

Got a weird text? A telecom vendor says it's to blame

BY TALİ ARBEL
AP Technology Writer

If you woke up to a weird text that seemed totally out of place, you aren't alone. A mysterious wave of missives swept America's phones overnight, delivering confusing messages from friends, family and the occasional ex.

Friends who hadn't talked to each other in months were jolted into chatting. Others briefly panicked.

A telecom vendor called Syniverse said a server failed on Feb. 14, and nearly 170,000 messages from multiple carriers didn't go through. When that server was reactivated Thursday, those messages got sent. In a statement sent to The Associated Press by Verizon, Syniverse said it is reviewing internal procedures so this doesn't happen again. Syniverse typically deletes messages that don't go through. Syniverse didn't immediately respond to a request for more details.

The sudden release of messages sometimes had a dramatic effect.

Stephanie Bovee, a 28-year-old from Portland, Oregon, woke up at 5 a.m. to a text from her sister that said just “omg.” She immediately thought something had happened to her newborn nephew at the hospital.

She started calling everyone. Her sister and her sister's husband didn't answer. She woke up her mom, freaking her out. It was three hours before she learned that everything was

fine and the text was an odd anomaly.

“Now it's funny,” she said. “But out of context, it was not cool.”

Bovee figured out that people were getting some of her old texts that failed to go through when her sister and a co-worker both got texts that she had sent in February. The text her sister received wished her a happy Valentine's Day.

Marissa Figueroa, a 25-year-old from Turlock, California, got an unwanted message from an ex she had stopped talking to — and then he got one from her as well.

Neither actually sent them recently, both said. Figueroa couldn't figure it out, even worrying that her ex was messing with her, until she saw reports of this happening to others.

“It didn't feel great,” she said. “It just was not good for me and my mental health to be in contact with him.”

A friend who'd just reentered his life got a mystifying message from Joseph Gomez at 5:32 a.m. Thursday. In that text, Gomez seemed to assume she was on her way over to his house so they could order a Lyft.

It took a half hour of back-and-forth texting and help from a screenshot to clear up the situation. Can their relationship recover? Gomez, who is 22 and lives in Washington, D.C., said it was “confusion, then awkward, and then funny.” No mixed messages there.

PULSE

Continued from A1

Wabash County and their associated auxiliaries.

North Manchester native speaks on modeling career

The North Manchester Historical Society (NMHS) will welcome home Murph Damron at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 11 in the Assembly Room at Timbercrest Retirement Center, 2201 East St. It is open to the public at no cost and will be enjoyable for audiences of all ages.

City, county, state offices closed for Veterans Day

Wabash city and county offices will be closed for Veterans Day, Monday, Nov. 11. The Wabash County Commissioners meeting has been moved to 9 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 12. The Wabash City Council meeting has been moved to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 12. All Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicle (BMV) branches are closed beginning Saturday, Nov. 9 in observance of the Veterans Day holiday. All branches resume regularly scheduled business hours on Tuesday, Nov. 12. The Wabash Carnegie Public Library will be closed Veterans Day, Monday, Nov. 11, due a circulation systems upgrade and staff training. The library will be open regular hours starting Tuesday, Nov. 12.

Contemporary music for solo piano performance at Manchester

The Manchester University Department of Music presents a solo piano recital by guest artist Martin Jones at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 12 in Wine Recital Hall. It is free and open to the public.

Honeywell House presents 'An American in China'

The Honeywell House welcomes Elizabeth Myers Macinata to present “An American in China During World War II,” at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 12 at 720 N. Wabash St. This event is free and open to the public. Reservations are encouraged, as seating is limited. Please visit www.HoneywellHouse.org or call the Box Office at 260-563-1102 for more information.

Program at Manchester offers skills to deal with conflict

The hour-long program is 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 12 at the upper level of the Jo Young Switzer Center on the North Manchester campus. It is free and open to the public.

Tippecanoe Audubon Society to present endangered birds program

The Tippecanoe Audubon Society will present a program by Matt Williams, author of the recent book, “Endangered and Disappearing Birds of the Midwest,” at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 12 at Manchester University. The program will be given in the Jo Young Switzer Center (Student Union), Speicher Room

(second floor). Dinner will be available at 6 p.m. for \$15. For further information or to make a dinner reservation, call Dave Hicks at 260-982-2471 or email djhicks@manchester.edu.

Frances Slocum Chapter of the DAR to meet

Wabash County Frances Slocum Chapter, IN DAR will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 12, at the Grandstaff Hentgen Activity Room, 1241 Manchester Ave. The program will be given by retired U.S. National Guard Army veteran, Helen Hile. Prospective members and guests are always welcome to attend. DAR membership is open to any woman 18 years of age, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution. Those having questions about their family history lineage information may visit www.dar.org or call Linda Thompson at 260-563-4661 or Barbara Amiss at 260-982-4376.

Kokomo day trip planned for next month

The North Manchester Historical Society and Shepherd's Center are sponsoring a day trip to Kokomo Opalescent Glass, Celebrations Event Center and Seiberling Mansion on Thursday, Dec. 12. The cost of the day trip is \$72, and includes luxury coach, both tours, lunch, and any tips and taxes. Please RSVP by Nov. 15. For detailed information contact Bernie Ferring, tour coordinator, by mail at 314 Sunset Drive, North Manchester, IN 46962; by email at bernievicki@gmail.com; or by phone at 260-982-8734.

Downtown Night to Remember planned

The following schedule of events had been released for Friday, Nov. 15: 4 to 9 p.m., Holiday Open Houses and Map Stamping; 6:30 to 7 p.m., The Lighting of the Courthouse including Santa's arrival; and 7:15 to 9 p.m., Visit with Santa at Wabash City Hall.

Downtown businesses to extend hours on select dates

Participating shops will be open until 7 p.m. on the following dates: Nov. 15, 17, 23, 24, 29 and 30. Dec. 6, 7, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20 and 21.

Free admission at the Dr. James Ford Historic Home

Activity is gearing up once again at the Dr. James Ford Historic Home in anticipation of Wabash's annual Downtown Night to Remember, taking place from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 15 and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 16. After enjoying the downtown holiday décor, enjoy holiday hoopla and free admission at the Home located at 177 W. Hill Street in Wabash. For more event information on the Dr. James Ford Historic Home, call 260-563-1102 or visit www.drfordhome.org/programs-and-events.

4-H Junior Leaders fish and tenderloin fry planned

An all-you-can-eat fish

and tenderloin fry has been planned from 3 to 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 16 hosted at the Lagro Community Building, 230 Buchanan St., Lagro. Tickets are available in advance at a discounted rate at the Wabash County Courthouse, Purdue Extension Office, 1 W. Hill St. The cost for adults is \$9, children ages 6 to 11 are \$5 and children 5 and under eat free. Tickets may also be purchased at the door the night of the fish and tenderloin fry at the Lagro Community Building at the regular price of adults for \$10, children ages 6 to 11 for \$6, and children 5 and under eat free.

MU invites students, parents to Spartan Day

The school is hosting Spartan Day on Saturday, Nov. 16 at its campus in North Manchester. It is from 8:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and includes a complimentary lunch.

Fresh-cut cedar wreath workshop to be held

Learn the art of making a fresh-cut cedar wreath with floral artist Hannah Mattern from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 16, at the Salamonie Interpretive Center, Salamonie Lake, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. The cost is \$25 per person, payable day of the event. Call 260-468-2127 to register. Limited space available.

National Take-A-Hike Day: Swift Grand Tour planned

From noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 17, ACRES Land Trust volunteers will keep the hiking pace swift. Fuel up your vehicle and join in this fast-walking 6-mile grand tour with built-in breaks as you are caravanning from preserve to preserve. Restrooms are available at Asherwood. The trip concludes with sunset views of the Seven Pillars of the Mississinewa Landmark. Other preserve visits include Kokiwanee, Hathaway Preserve at Ross Run, Asherwood and Pehkokia Woods. Space is limited. For starting location and other information, RSVP to outreach@acreslandtrust.org or 260-637-2273 by Wednesday, Nov. 13.

Two student matinee performances scheduled

The Honeywell Foundation's Educational Outreach Program is presenting two Student Matinee performances of “Miss Nelson Has a Field Day” at 10 a.m. and noon Tuesday, Nov. 19, at Honeywell Center's Ford Theater. Tickets to see Mill Nelson Has a Field Day are \$10 for the public, \$6 per student for schools, with one free adult ticket for each 10 students. For more information, please contact the Honeywell Center Box Office at 260-563-1102.

'China and Wabash: Working Together Today' program planned

The Honeywell House welcomes husband and wife Dave and Sandy Haist as they present “China and Wabash: Working Together Today,” scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 720 N. Wabash St. This event is free and open to the public. Reservations are encouraged, as seat-

ing is limited. Visit www.HoneywellHouse.org or call the Box Office at 260-563-1102.

Tree-lighting ceremony is Nov. 20 at Manchester University

Manchester University will host its annual tree-lighting ceremony on Wednesday, Nov. 20 in front of Petersime Chapel. The Manchester Junior High Choir will perform seasonal selections and carols at 6 p.m., with the lighting at 6:25 p.m. Santa Claus arrives at 6:30 p.m. There will be refreshments and photos with Santa inside Funderburg Library. This celebration is free and open to the public.

Common Ground Prayer Ministries plans Prayer Watch

From 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 20, Common Ground Prayer Ministries is planning a Prayer Watch Wednesday for Wabash Ministries. We are asking people to come in and pray for half-hour time slots in the prayer room. Focus this month is Friends In Service Here (FISH). You can contact anyone at the prayer room or Janet Shoue with FISH to let them know when you could come. At 10 a.m. every Tuesday, this is a Community Prayer, which is open to all. Contact any of our prayer captains with questions including Debbie Sweet at 260-571-6072, Shirley Neele at 260-591-0047 or Angie Penix at 260-571-9809.

Banner contest awards and reception planned

The 16th Annual Wabash County Winter Banner Competition awards ceremony will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 20 at the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater. A reception in the main lobby will follow.

'Johnny Got His Gun' brings horror of war to Manchester

Manchester University will show the film at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21 in Cordier Auditorium, followed by a panel discussion.

Winter Banner Competition artwork displayed

The students' artwork will hang in the Clark Gallery at the Honeywell Center from Saturday, Nov. 9 through Sunday, Dec. 1.

Woman's Clubhouse plans evening Christmas dinner

Don't forget the Christmas evening dinner Thursday, Dec. 5. It is the annual holiday fundraiser with a very special dinner and entertainment. The house will be decorated in an angel theme this year. Reservations will be taken at the November luncheon. Contact Carol McDonald by phone at 260-563-2331 or Mary Delauter at 260-563-6613 for more information.

Editor's note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

speak up

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
http://coats.senate.gov/contact

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
http://braun.senate.gov/

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski R-District 2
419 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9467
Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. David Wolkins, R-District 18
Indiana House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9841
h18@in.gov

letters guidelines

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 123 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplainealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.

inspiration corner

Daily scripture

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

1 Peter 5:8-9

Trump's whistleblower attacks set dangerous precedent

The facts of the Ukraine scandal are clear and damning, so it is not surprising that President Donald Trump and his minions search desperately for scapegoats and distraction. In many instances, they just look foolish. But one particular obsession – to name and attack "the whistleblower" – is a grave threat to the integrity of the government.

Despite warnings that disclosing the whistleblower's identity might expose him or her to harm, right-wing media outlets such as Breitbart have printed the name of a federal employee who may be the whistleblower. Republicans on the House Intelligence Committee have threatened to call the whistleblower as a witness in the panel's impeachment inquiry. The president even retweeted an article with the printed name. Trump insists he must be allowed to "meet my accuser," as in a criminal trial. But the whistleblower is more like a confidential informant who tips off the authorities before an arrest or a trial. Every substantive allegation in the whistleblower's account has been confirmed, on the record, by witnesses whose identities are known to Trump and the world. The president's lawyers will have the opportunity to challenge the evi-

dence if and when he is tried in the Senate.

Given how he has slandered other witnesses, there is little doubt what Trump really wants: a target. Conservative outlets have already attempted to link the alleged whistleblower to their long-running conspiracy theories about the Obama administration and the "deep state." Obnoxious radio provocateur Rush Limbaugh has mocked the supposed whistleblower's appearance. For his part, Trump has resorted to attacking the whistleblower's lawyer, Mark Zaid, on the basis of tweets the lawyer wrote in 2017. The president would no doubt like to expose the whistleblower so the conversation can turn to old tweets and conspiracy allegations rather than the facts.

Those facts are: An unnamed whistleblower wrote a memo recounting a phone call Trump held with the president of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelensky, in which he pressed Zelensky to launch investigations designed to help Trump politically. That initial tip resulted in the release of huge amounts of corroborating evidence, including a rough transcript of the call released by the White House itself. As wit-

ness after witness has described the months-long pressure campaign on Ukraine to serve the president's political interests, the whistleblower's account has become superfluous. At this point, the House and Senate need not rely on a word the whistleblower wrote to judge Trump's actions. Permanently upending the whistleblower's life, as the president and his allies want, would serve no purpose beyond distraction and revenge.

And it would set a dangerous precedent. When accountability fails or politicians confuse their own interests with the public's, there must be a way for officials to raise the alarm without fear of retaliation. Hence the long-standing, bipartisan agreement that whistleblowers should be given formal and informal protections. Now that a president is being called out for egregious behavior and calling his party to rally to him, that consensus is in danger. The next time a patriotic civil servant witnesses misconduct, the craven campaign against today's whistleblower may affect whether that misconduct is reported. If it is not, the public will be poorer for it.

This editorial was first published in The Washington Post.



If Congress had any pride, it would set immigration policy

When an obviously humane and demonstrably popular policy is implemented by a seriously flawed process, the Supreme Court must do its counter-majoritarian duty. It must insist that not even an admirable social end, supported by a national majority, justifies constitutionally dubious means. This describes the drama that will unfold Tuesday when the court hears oral arguments concerning Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).

This pertains to the almost 800,000 so-called Dreamers in our midst, people who were under age 16 when brought to America by parents who were not lawfully residents. Congress has long been unable to address the Dreamers' status by protecting them from the manifestly unjust threat of deportation from the only country they have known.

Barack Obama's exasperation with the separation of powers, and with the existence of Congress, was even more pronounced than is normal among presidents, especially progressive ones. So he did what he had repeatedly said he lacked the power to do: He made available to these children temporary but renewable legal status and work authorization. He called this an exercise of "prosecutorial discretion." This was somewhat novel in the size of the class of individuals affected, and in affirming a right to work and other federal benefits.

When President Trump rescinded DACA, he denounced it as "an end-run around Congress" that was "unconstitutional" and his attorney general said it was "effectuated ... without proper statutory authority." Never mind the impertinence of this from a president who has declared an "emergency" in order to

spend on a border wall money that Congress appropriated for other purposes.

The U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, which is often in error but never in doubt, acknowledged that presidents have considerable power to undo policies put in place by executive actions of prior administrations. But the court held that the administration's reasons for rescinding DACA were arbitrary and capricious and hence violated the Administrative Procedure Act.

A brief from Ilya Shapiro and Josh Blackman (who favor DACA as policy) for the Cato Institute argues that Obama's action went beyond "constitutionally-authorized executive power." Such power is not enlarged "when Congress refuses to act, no matter how unjustified the congressional inaction is." There is no constitutional implication from Congress' passivity in the face of this "foundational transformation of immigration policy," a transformation "inconsistent with the president's duty of faithful execution."

Furthermore, if the Immigration and Nationality Act actually grants to presidents such discretion to rewrite immigration law, then the INA violates the nondelegation doctrine. This forbids Congress to delegate to executive agencies essentially legislative powers regarding "major questions," which surely encompasses immigration policy.

The Constitution's first substantive words – the first after the Preamble – are: "All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress." The Constitution's Article I, which deals with Congress, is more than twice as long as Article II, which deals with the president and which devotes more words to how presidents shall be selected and removed than it does to everything else about the presidency. The president's core function is to "take

care that the laws be faithfully executed." If Congress had even a faint pulse and an ounce of pride it would take care to enact laws that set immigration policy rather than churning out faux laws that give to presidents discretion tantamount to lawmaking.

The Trump administration's main reason for rescinding DACA is thoroughly disreputable but entirely permissible – that DACA is bad policy. Another and sufficient reason, however, is that DACA was implemented in accordance with the noxious theory that presidents acquire new constitutional powers by engaging in practices that a lethargic Congress does not challenge. As Cato's brief says, "The executive branch does not need the judiciary's permission to cease enforcing a regulation it determines to be unconstitutional. ... Courts should allow reversals of novel execution actions that expand presidential power."

If the court allows the administration to withdraw DACA's humane protections for Dreamers, this might embarrass Congress into involving itself in the nation's governance. And the Trump administration will have (inadvertently) contributed to circumscribing executive power. "Taming the Prince" (the title of Harvard political philosopher Harvey Mansfield's book on executive power) requires measures "to recage the executive lion" (the words of Saikrishna Bangalore Prakash of the University of Virginia Law School in his book "The Living Presidency: An Originalist Argument against Its Ever-Expanding Powers," coming next April from Harvard University Press). Tuesday's case demonstrates the difficulty of such taming and recaging until Congress remembers the Constitution's first substantive words.

George Will's email address is georgewill@washpost.com.

Biden's Iraq war walk-back is revisionist nonsense

Former vice president Joe Biden said in a recent interview he agrees with Jim Mattis that the Obama administration's decision to withdraw troops from Iraq was a mistake, but that as vice president he tried to keep "a residual force" stationed there. This is revisionist nonsense. Just a few months ago, at the July Democratic presidential debate, Biden boasted that "one of the proudest moments of my life was to stand there in Al-Faw Palace and tell everyone that ... all our combat troops are coming home." In September, he declared, "We were right to get the combat troops out." But now he agrees it was a mistake?

The fact is, at the time Biden expressed zero regrets about the complete U.S. withdrawal, which he was in charge of executing. The New York Times reports that in December 2011 Biden was "ebullient" as he presided over the departure ceremony for the last American forces, calling President Barack Obama from Baghdad to tell him "All I've said about this job, I take it back. Thank you for giving me the chance to end this goddamn war."

Of course, he did not actually end the "goddamn war," he unleashed a humanitarian and national security catastrophe. Biden's withdrawal created a vacuum that allowed the Islamic State – which had been reduced to just 700 fighters – to regroup, reconstitute itself and build a murderous caliphate the size of Great Britain. The terrorists enslaved and raped thousands of Yazidi girls and carried out gruesome executions across Iraq and Syria. And they spread their murderous tentacles across the globe, carrying out 143 attacks in 29 countries that killed over 2,000 people and injured many thousands more.

Biden has criticized President Trump for withdrawing from Syria against the advice of our military commanders. Yet Biden did not listen to our military commanders when it came to the Iraq withdrawal. The Times reports that Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III, the U.S. commander in Iraq, proposed keeping as many as 24,000 troops in Iraq. According to Biden national security adviser Colin H. Kahl, Austin was told by the White House "you've got to be kidding." So Austin presented Obama and Biden with options for 19,000, 16,000 and 10,000 troops – and told them the lowest number was "unwise." But Biden "aggressively pushed for a smaller force," and Obama agreed. Then, during negotiations with the Iraqis, the administration cut the offer in half to just 5,000 – an offer the Iraqis rejected.

In his interview with the Wall Street Journal, Biden blamed George W. Bush for the U.S. withdrawal, noting that he had negotiated a status of forces agreement that required an end to the U.S. military presence by 2011. Please. Does anyone really believe that if Bush were still in office in 2011, he would have pulled out all U.S. forces? Of course not.

The reason Obama and Biden were unable to get an agreement to extend the U.S. troop presence is because they made it crystal clear to the Iraqis that America was headed for the exits. Iraq is watched as Obama and Biden rejected numbers well above 10,000, only grudgingly agreed to even that number and then cut that number to 5,000. If you were an Iraqi, would this have given you confidence in America's long-term commitment?

Iran and its political allies inside Iraq were pressing for a U.S. withdrawal, and threatening politicians who supported extending the American military presence. For Iraqi leaders, 24,000 American troops might have been worth the political risk, and maybe even 10,000 would have been worth it. But an offer of just 5,000 troops from an administration that was determined to go to zero as quickly as possible was not. If America was leaving, and Iran was staying, why risk siding with the Americans?

In 2013, as the Islamic State was gaining steam, Biden said that he and Obama felt "happy and ... fulfilled" with the decision to withdraw from Iraq. A year later, they would be forced to send U.S. forces back to Iraq to deal with the debacle they had unleashed.

Biden supported the Iraq invasion but then opposed the Bush surge, which crushed the Islamic State and won the war. Then he supported a premature withdrawal that allowed the terrorists to regroup and was celebrating that decision as recently as four months ago – but now says he regrets it. That's quite a record for a man running on his record of experience and judgment.

Follow Marc A. Thiessen on Twitter, @marcthiessen.

Marc A. Thiessen



Residents of Mexican town struggle with fear after massacre

BY PETER ORSI
Associated Press

LA MORA, Mexico — After holding funerals for and burying some of the nine American women and children slain in a cartel ambush, residents of this town of about 300 are coming to grips with the fear the attacks inspired among the tightly knit community. “I do not feel safe here, and I won’t, because the truth is we aren’t safe here as a community,” a tearful David Langford said to mourners at the funeral for his wife, Dawna Ray Langford, on Thursday in La Mora, whose residents consider themselves Mormon but are not affiliated with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. While the sibling community of Colonia LeBaron has been peaceful since the 2009 murder of one of its members and subsequent installation of a security base, La Mora lacks such a presence — at least until Monday’s killings prompted state and federal forces to deploy to protect

those who came to mourn. How long they stay could be crucial to its future. “We here in the mountains, we have no access to authorities, or very, very little,” David Langford said. The first burials took place as Mexican soldiers stood guard, a reminder of the dangers they face living amid a drug cartel turf war. On Friday, the bodies of Rhonita Miller and four of her children, all of whom also were murdered on the road between La Mora and Chihuahua state, were being taken back across that same dirt-and-rock mountainous pass in a convoy of pickups and SUVs for burial in Colonia LeBaron, which awoke under a persistent drizzle as locals made ready to head to the cemetery. Miller was eulogized as an “innocent spirit, beautiful heart” and a woman whose laugh “could light up a room.” Son Howard Jr. loved basketball and recently was

delighted to make his first three-pointer; daughter Kristal was “the apple of her daddy’s eye.” Twins Titus and Tiana, born March 13, were remembered as “two perfect angels in the first precious moments of their lives.” La Mora and Colonia LeBaron are intertwined by decades of marriages and births, and share a sense of community as English-speaking, dual-citizen Mormons living in Mexico, even if there’s variety from family to family on actual religious views and practices. An offshoot of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, they are not affiliated with the mainstream church. Set on a highway running through the northern state of Chihuahua, Colonia LeBaron is home to farmers of crops like pecans, alfalfa and cotton. The state is also home to drug cartels who smuggle their goods across the border to the United States, and at times war

over territory. Gunmen from the Juarez drug cartel had apparently set up the ambush as part of a turf war with the Sinaloa cartel, and the U.S. families drove into it. Mexican officials said the attackers may have mistaken the group’s large SUVs for those of a rival gang, but community members dispute that and say they have proof the attackers knew they were targeting women and children. Locals say they’ve been left alone by the gangs in LeBaron since 2009. But the killings cast doubt on the security situation in far more isolated La Mora, population about 300, where people have to drive about 20 minutes out of town to catch a cellphone signal. Residents share home WiFi passwords with their neighbors, so they can link in along the main road. It’s too soon to say for sure what will happen to La Mora, but locals are weighing whether it’s safe to stay. Steven Langford,

who was mayor from 2015-2018, predicted that as many as half could leave, turning it into a “ghost town.” Others say there’s no way they’re leaving. Erasmo Valenzuela, a 50-year-old Mexican who has worked with the families in La Mora for a decade, said he has heard that two or three families intend to leave. Grilling beef and chicken over barbecue pits to feed the hundreds of mourners who came for the services, he said the Americans create jobs and pay well, and he would hate to see an exodus. An official had come from Mexico City following the killings to discuss the possibility of establishing an army base in the area, he said, and hopefully that could help people feel safer, just like what happened in LeBaron. “It’s a shame for innocent children to die,” Valenzuela said. “Sometimes bad things have to happen for good things to happen, so that we feel safer.”

Iraqi spiritual leader warns of ‘great risks’ from protests

BY QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraq’s most senior Shiite cleric urged political leaders Friday to find a way out of the current cycle of anti-government protests and a subsequent security crackdown that has left more than 250 people dead, saying the country faces “great risks” if it continues. The protests continued to spread, with tens of thousands of people in the streets of Baghdad and across the largely Shiite south demanding sweeping political change. Demonstrators in the capital set up tents for a sit-in that extended to new streets and onto the banks of the Tigris River. In the latest violence, 32 people were injured by rubber bullets and tear gas canisters in confrontations on Baghdad’s famous Rashid Street, its oldest avenue and cultural center known for its crumbling houses. Tear gas filled the air as protesters used slingshots to hurl stones at security forces.

For east Syria, U.S. troops are about much more than oil

BY SARAH EL DEEB
Associated Press

BEIRUT — As U.S. troops beef up in eastern Syria to protect oil fields, residents hope their mission will bring stability and prosperity to the remote and resource-rich region — and keep the Syrian government out. Their hopes reflect the expectations being piled onto the operation, even as President Donald Trump flip-flopped on the scope and duration of troops deployment. He initially ordered all troops out of Syria last month, then decided to keep a force in place to hold the oil infrastructure. That keeps the U.S. troops in the middle of eastern Syria’s complex political geography, rich in oil and gas and packed with Turkish, Kurdish, Russian, Syrian and Iranian-backed troops. The stretches of Syria east of the Euphrates, where the oil is located, have been lost to the government of Syrian President Bashar Assad for most of the country’s eight-year civil war. Its mostly Arab population is opposed to Assad, angry with years of neglect that impoverished the area despite its resource wealth. Since U.S.-backed Kurdish-led forces drove out the Islamic State group, it has been governed by a Kurdish-led administration. So when Turkey invaded northeastern Syria last month, hundreds held angry protests in towns and villages in the east — not against Ankara but against the Syrian government and its Iranian allies. They feared the invasion would empower Damascus to send troops to their areas and restore control. Residents welcomed Trump’s latest decision, believing it a shield that would bring investments and an economic boom. “Good things are coming,” said Shehab, a 20-year-old who works as a herder and farmer in a small town in Deir el-Zour province, home to the largest oil fields. “Deir el-Zour lives on a sea of oil. We are optimistic that if the U.S. takes over the fields, they will bring in (new) companies and expertise,” Shehab said. “The unemployed will find jobs.” He declined to give his last name for security reasons. Trump has vowed to strike a deal with “Exxon Mobil or one of our great companies to go in there” and modernize the oil fields. But experts say it is unlikely a U.S. oil major would find it commercially attractive or politically stable to invest there. Some in eastern Syria have hoped regional countries interested in gaining clout in Syria, such as Saudi Arabia, may

be interested. Syria’s oil reserves are modest, estimated in 2011 at around 2.5 billion barrels. Production shrunk from a peak of 380,000 barrels a day to an estimated 80,000 now, and the fields are in disarray from years of conflict and mismanagement. Currently, the Kurdish-led administration sells the oil on the local market or through smuggling it to the Syrian government. Pentagon officials indicated the U.S. presence is not intended to improve the oil infrastructure but to keep it in the hands of the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces. Chief Pentagon spokesman Jonathan Hoffman said Thursday the U.S. mission is focused on two things: Preventing IS from recapturing the oil fields and enabling the SDF to maintain a revenue source to continue fighting the militants. “The revenue from this is not going to the U.S.,” Hoffman said. From the ground, the new U.S. mission blocks Damascus’ plans to regain the east and Iran’s efforts to complete a land corridor through Iraq, Syria and Lebanon. Iran’s ability to project power and potentially transport advanced weaponry all the way to Israel’s doorstep has long been a major U.S. concern. “Iran is the real danger,” said Omar Abu Layla, a native of Deir el-Zour who lives in Europe and runs an activist collective called Deir Ezzor 24 that monitors developments in the area. Abu Layla said he met last week with Joel Rayburn, U.S. special envoy for Syria, who expressed support for the protests and an understanding for concerns about Iran’s threat to the area. “We anticipate this area will be very, very important,” Abu Layla said. The new U.S. mission has also raised hopes among the region’s Arab tribes that they will play a larger role in the Kurdish-led force. U.S. troops, including mechanized armored vehicles used for the first time

in Syria, are deploying in bases in Hassakeh and Deir el-Zour provinces. The Pentagon will not say how many forces will remain in Syria, but officials have suggested they could number at least 800. When the U.S. forces withdrew from the north, the Kurds — seeking protection from their No. 1 enemy Turkey — invited in the Syrian government and Russia. Assad’s forces walked back into parts of northeastern Syria where they had not set foot in years. More are now deploying along large parts of the border region under a Russian-Turkish deal. While Kurdish-led forces fight side by side with government troops against continued Turkish incursions, the same force remains the main partner of the U.S. in its new mission. The force’s Kurdish commander, Mazloum Abdi, said the American troops will work “in coordination with our forces” and would continue in operations against IS remnants and in training Kurdish-led forces. “The main reason behind (the U.S. presence) is definitely not oil. Everyone knows that the U.S. does not need the oil,” he said in an interview aired Wednesday. Hassan Hassan, a Syria and terrorism expert with Washington-based think tank Global Policy, said the new mission is “a recalibration of the previous plan, currently focused on Iran and the (Syrian) regime.” It is not, however, “part of a thought-out and politically sustainable strategy,” he said. “The risk is that Trump will order a sudden withdrawal when something goes south.” In a subtle hint, Assad said in an interview last week his military is no match for the U.S. forces but their presence may spark “popular resistance,” likening it to what happened in Iraq before the U.S. withdrawal in 2011. Residents of the east are already wary of the forces of Assad and his Iranian-backed allies, deployed just across the Euphrates. Reports have circulated

among locals that government troops were massing and Iranian-backed militias arriving from Iraq. Kurdish-led forces and government troops clashed Tuesday near the town of Husseiniya, according to Deir Ezzor 24 and the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a war monitor group. The Observatory said the clashes prompted the U.S. military to fire rockets at the government forces. The U.S.-led coalition denied firing, but the reports underscored the possibility of frictions. The fears sent prices of basic goods shooting up as people began to hoard. Many considered fleeing, said Shehab, who had to leave his home west of the Euphrates when government forces moved in two years ago. Iranian-backed militias are recruiting and confiscating homes across the river, he said. It was “impossible” to live under Assad again, the newlywed Shehab said. For men of fighting age like him, Damascus’ rule means obligatory military service or vanishing into prisons like

others suspected of opposition links. Shehab said it was reassuring when U.S. armored vehicles, with American flags, drove through his town, Shuheil, in a show of support after he and hundreds of others held a protest last week against any return of government rule. But what if the U.S. pulls out, as Trump has promised many times before? “This is what is available for us now,” Shehab said. “We will hang on to that until we see what God gives us.”



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HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Indian defense smothers Norse

BY JACOB RUDE
sports@wabashplaindealer.com

The opening eight minutes of Thursday's girls' basketball showdown with Northfield and Mississinewa played out something similar to last season's contest, the Indians turning the ball over far too often and the Norse capitalizing on those mistakes.

But the next 24 minutes of the contest played out to an entirely different tune, spelling out the different paths currently the Indians and Norse are on. After falling behind 15-6 in the opening frame, Mississinewa outscored the host Norse 43-18 the rest of the way to win going away on the night, 49-33.

"I'm so proud of our girls, man," Mississinewa head coach Laura Friday said. "We came out a little slow but the way they came back, last year against this same team we were down seven points and then we just kind of fell off and that was it. This year, we were down nine points and we came back. I think that just shows a lot of improvement from our girls and understanding and the belief in themselves that we can come back in games and we can make a statement. So, I'm just really proud of their effort tonight."

Northfield used its patented run-and-jump full-court press to force turnover after turnover to open the night as the hosts scored the first six points and eight of the first ten before a timeout from Mississinewa two minutes into the game.

While the Indians would steady the ship the rest of the quarter, Northfield still



JACOB RUDE/Plain Dealer

INDIANS: Northfield's Emma Hoover dribbles downcourt during a fastbreak during Thursday's contest against Mississinewa.

See INDIANS / Page B3

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Northwestern hopes turnaround starts by beating Purdue today

BY ANDREW SELIGMAN
AP Sports Writer

EVANSTON, Ill. — As bad as things are going for Northwestern, coach Pat Fitzgerald is sure of this. The Wildcats will get back to winning.

He hopes to use the final stretch as a springboard and snap a six-game losing streak when they host Purdue on Saturday.

"I have 1 million percent confidence we'll get back on the winning track," Fitzgerald said, citing the team's work ethic in practice and in the classroom. "We'll get this thing turned around. I've

got a track record of winning football games here, kicking (butt) and taking names."

With a 97-77 record in 14 seasons, Fitzgerald has nearly twice as many victories as any other Northwestern coach. Pappy Waldorf is second with 49 from 1935 to 1946. Fitzgerald has led the Wildcats (1-7, 0-6 Big Ten) to nine bowl games, winning four, and a spot in the Big Ten championship last season.

What he hasn't done is endure many seasons like this.

The six-game slide since beating UNLV in September is Northwestern's longest

since dropping seven in a row in 2013. The Wildcats have seven losses for the first time since going 5-7 for the second straight year in 2014. They haven't lost eight in a season since going 4-8 in 2006, Fitzgerald's first season following the unexpected death of Randy Walker.

The last time Northwestern finished winless in conference play? That was in 1998, when the Wildcats dropped all eight Big Ten games in going 3-9 in Gary Barnett's final season.

The next three games are at home, with Massachusetts and No. 13 Minnesota

coming to Ryan Field before the finale at Illinois. And Fitzgerald hopes to start building something for next season.

Purdue (3-6, 2-4) needs to win its final three games to become bowl-eligible. The Boilermakers beat Nebraska last week after losing to Iowa and Illinois, and they have a second off week coming up before closing out against No. 16 Wisconsin and Indiana.

PUNCHLESS OFFENSE

Northwestern continues to

See PURDUE / Page B3

NFL

Dolphins will be ready to face either Colts QB

BY MICHAEL MAROT
AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS — Miami Dolphins coach Brian Flores could have written the scouting report on Jacoby Brissett or Brian Hoyer without even looking at the game tape.

He saw both up close and personal in New England and fully understands what the Dolphins will face Sunday in Indianapolis.

Funny thing is Brissett and Hoyer also recognize what they're up against, too.

"Brian Flores is an incredible coach. I've known him since my rookie year," said Hoyer, who finished last week's game after Brissett injured his left knee. "I was away from him and then

I came back to see him as the defensive coordinator. I know their offensive staff and their scheme."

The Colts (5-3) have plenty at stake this week.

They have struggled to score points each of the past two weeks and their vaunted offensive line has allowed nine sacks during the same span. Penalties have proved costly and so have special team miscues. And now Indy remains uncertain if Brissett will play after spraining his medial collateral ligament in last weekend's loss at Pittsburgh, which knocked the Colts out of the AFC South lead.

"This business is brutal," Colts coach Frank Reich said. "You lose and you feel

the sting of it and you feel like your back is against the wall and we have to respond."

Flores has faced the same scenario — seven times this season.

It's a stark contrast from his days of routine victory celebrations in New England, for whom he was a longtime assistant. Instead, he's running the rebuilding Dolphins (1-7) who are trying to build momentum after picking up their first win last week.

But Flores knows it will be a tough task against two quarterbacks he respects.

"I was very impressed with Jacoby and I'm not surprised at all that he's playing the way he is," Flores said before turning his attention to Hoyer. "He is as smart as

they come at the quarterback position."

WELCOME TO THE CLUB

Three-time All-Pro defensive end Dwight Freeney returns to Lucas Oil Stadium on Sunday — becoming the 16th member of the Colts' Ring of Honor.

Freeney played 11 seasons in Indianapolis, becoming the franchise's career sacks leader with 107½, and was part of the Colts' 2006 Super Bowl winning team. He ranks second on the Colts' career list, behind bookend rusher Robert Mathis, now an assistant on Reich's staff.

Former general manager Bill Polian selected Freeney

See COLTS / Page B3

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Notre Dame visits Duke looking for late surge

BY JOEDY MCCREARY
AP Sports Writer

DURHAM, N.C. — No. 15 Notre Dame found a way to finally win a close game. Duke hasn't had much success doing that.

The Fighting Irish (6-2, No. 15 CFP) visit the Blue Devils (4-4) on Saturday night in a game neither team can really afford to lose.

With two losses, Notre Dame is out of the College Football Playoff discussion but a spot in a New Year's Six bowl is very much a possibility. But for that to happen, the Irish keep winning and climbing up the selection committee's rankings.

After bouncing back from a sloppy loss at Michigan with a last-minute victory over Virginia Tech, the Irish have a manageable schedule the rest of the way and shape up as favorites in each of their final four games.

"I don't know why, but it seems like if you win it's a little quieter," coach Brian Kelly said. "We are going to continue to try to do that. Our preparation will be such that we've got our players understanding what it takes to prepare and play the right way. We'll build off that and go have some fun."

It's been tougher lately for the Blue Devils, who have lost two straight and need to win two of their final four games — next up are Syracuse, No. 22 Wake Forest and resurgent Miami — to qualify for their third straight bowl game.

Either way, they'll no doubt rue the ones that slipped away.

Only two of Duke's games have been decided by fewer than 18 points and the Blue Devils lost them both in the closing minutes, losing 33-30 to Pittsburgh and most recently falling 20-17 at rival North Carolina when a tailback jump pass was intercepted at the goal line. Duke used its off week to put the sting of that loss in the past.

"You use it as fuel," coach David Cutcliffe said. "You don't let it eat you up under any circumstances, and so we put that to rest during the open date."

Some things to know about the Notre Dame-Duke game:

TURNOVERS ARE KEY

Duke has 19 turnovers and 17 have come in its four losses, including five in a 48-14 loss at Virginia and three against the Tar Heels. Notre Dame is tied for 10th nationally with a turnover margin of plus-7, and has turned it over multiple times in only three games — losses to Michigan and Georgia, and that closer-than-expected win over Virginia Tech.

GOOD BOOK

Kelly says QB Ian Book has maintained a high level of confidence despite an up-and-down season. Book shrugged off two interceptions last week and led an 18-play, 87-yard drive that he capped with a 7-yard touchdown run with 29 sec-

See IRISH / Page B3



No. 24 Indiana women win opener 75-52

BLOOMINGTON (AP) — Grace Berger scored a career-high 24 points and No. 24 Indiana opened its season with a 75-52 victory over Mount St. Mary's on Thursday night.

Berger, a sophomore who played in all of the Hoosiers' games last year, making four starts, shot 8 of 13, including 3 of 6 from the arc. She made all five of her free throws and had seven rebounds, four assists and four steals. Freshman Mackenzie Holmes scored 15 points in 19 minutes and grabbed seven rebounds.

Berger scored 18 points and Holmes 11 in the first half when Indiana went out in front 50-26. The Hoosiers took control by outscoring the Mountaineers 25-8 in the second quarter.

Aryna Taylor scored 15 points with eight rebounds for the Mountaineers.

Indiana outrebounded the Mountaineers (1-1) 42-25. There were 39 turnovers, 21 by Mount St. Mary's, which was just 3 of 19 from the arc.

Seattle Mariners promote 3 men to fill out coaching staff

SEATTLE (AP) — The Seattle Mariners have made a trio of promotions to fill out the major league coaching staff for next season.

Manager Scott Servais announced Thursday that Pete Woodworth would be the new pitching coach, Carson Vitale will be the field coordinator and Jarret DeHart will be the assistant hitting coach. Woodworth was the pitching coach for Seattle's Double-A Arkansas affiliate last season. Vitale spent the past two seasons as Seattle's minor-league field coordinator and DeHart was a roving hitting instructor for the club.

Paul Davis, who was the pitching coach last season, will now be a pitching strategist for the organization.

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COLLEGE FOOTBALL

8 years later, it's No. 1 LSU versus No. 2 Alabama again

BY JOHN ZENOR

AP Sports Writer

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Alabama and LSU are ready for another 1 versus 2 November get-together.

It took eight years, seismic offensive shifts and two Heisman Trophy-contending quarterbacks, but they're back for another massive meeting between the nation's two top-ranked teams in the AP poll.

No. 1 LSU (8-0, 4-0 Southeastern Conference, No. 2 CFP) meets No. 2 Alabama (8-0, 5-0, No. 3 CFP) Saturday at Bryant-Denny Stadium, just like the so-called Game of the Century in 2011. Well, not just like it since those comparatively plodding offenses never reached the end zone and now the Tigers and Crimson Tide have two of the nation's best.

Even President Donald Trump is expected to attend.

"It's very exciting, 1 vs. 2, it's the best of the best," Alabama wide receiver Jerry Jeudy said. "Everybody wants to play their best game because it's 1 vs. 2. You want to go out there and show that you're the best. So there's a lot of excitement, a lot of anxiety, just ready to go out and play."

The big question leading up to the game is the status of Tide quarterback Tua Tagovailoa and his surgically repaired right ankle. Coach Nick Saban has said that will

be "a game-time decision," but Tagovailoa has been practicing and 'Bama remains a 5-1/2-point favorite.

If he's healthy, it has the makings of an epic quarterback showdown: Tagovailoa and LSU's Joe Burrow rank among the top three nationally in completion percentage and passing efficiency. Burrow is second in passing yards per game and Tagovailoa is seventh.

The offenses bear scant resemblance to those in the 2011 field goal festival, won 9-6 by LSU in overtime. Alabama won the rematch 21-0 in the national championship game and hasn't lost to its SEC West rival since then — an eight-game win streak.

Both teams again have their sights set on SEC championships and playoff berths. LSU has polished its resume with three wins over Top 10 teams, and perhaps could overcome a loss in Tuscaloosa or the SEC championship game. Alabama hasn't faced anybody currently ranked, and might not have that luxury.

"We went on the road and (played) a really good Texas team, played Florida, Auburn," Burrow said. "So we've been challenged, and I think that's going to help us a lot this week, facing the adversity we've had this year ... We have a really mature team."

Some other things to know heading into the LSU-Ala-

bama showdown:

TUA TALK

Saban has been cautious, or maybe just coy, in public comments about Tagovailoa's status. The 2018 Heisman Trophy runner-up has missed the past six-plus quarters since getting injured against Tennessee and had a surgical procedure on his right ankle.

Mac Jones took his place.

"Tua's worked hard to try to get back where he has an opportunity to play," Saban said Wednesday night. "He's been able to practice some. We still don't know what his status for the game is going to be. We'll make it when the game comes. We don't know what kind of setbacks he's going to have and how he's going to continue to progress. So, there's nothing else I can really say about it."

COACH TALK

"This is the best football team we've had going into this game."— LSU's Ed Orgeron.

LSU is "extremely explosive on offense, still play really good on defense. It's going to come down to the same old things — playing with discipline, blocking, tackling, basic fundamentals, not turning the ball over, explosive plays and people have to maintain their poise so they can do that for 60 minutes in the game." — Alabama's Nick Saban.

coach Jeff Brohm said.

ON DEFENSE

The Boilermakers defense has improved steadily this despite also being short-handed. But it may be coming off its best performance of the season. A week ago, Nebraska had short fields four times — after two interceptions, a blocked punt and a partially blocked punt. Still, Purdue only gave up three points on the four drives.

"I think just playing hard was the best thing we did," Brohm said. "But they kept us in the game early and the one turnover we got was crucial."

NO TAKEAWAYS

While Northwestern's defense has performed better than the offense, one area the Wildcats are struggling in is creating turnovers.

suffered season-ending knee injuries. Running back Kenyan Drake was traded, and his replacement, Mark Walton, begins a four-game suspension this week after a no-contest plea to a misdemeanor weapons charge last offseason.

Only two starters have played in every game this season — receiver DeVante Parker and left guard Michael Deiter.

SPUTTERING GROUND GAME

With Walton out, Kalen Ballage is expected to start Sunday. The second-year pro is averaging 2.0 yards on 35 carries this season,

SHOOTOUT?

LSU cornerback Kristian Fulton doesn't buy into talk that this will be a shootout.

"I mean, that's crazy, because I think we've both got pretty good defenses," Fulton said. "I know it won't be that high for sure, but I'm not really looking into the media about that."

PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

President Trump is visiting his third sporting event in recent weeks, having attended Game 5 of the World Series and an Ultimate Fighting Championship match in New York City's Madison Square Garden. The president's decision to attend Alabama-LSU, Tide receiver Henry Ruggs III said "shows the magnitude of the type of game that this could be."

Added Burrow: "Regardless of your political views, that's pretty cool, having the president at the game."

REMEMBER THE RUNNERS

Alabama's Najee Harris and LSU's Clyde Edwards-Helaire are still threats, even if they've been overshadowed by the quarterbacks and wide receivers. Edwards-Helaire has run for 683 yards and eight touchdowns while Harris has gained 642 yards with five scores. Both are also receiving threats out of the backfield.

They rank 125th in turnover margin at minus-10 and have just eight takeaways.

FRESH APPROACH

Purdue has claimed three of the last four Big Ten freshman of the week awards. Receiver David Bell won in consecutive weeks in October and on Monday, running back King Doerue captured the honor after producing 102 total yards and scoring on a TD run and TD catch. And with O'Connell starting, the Boilermakers may continue to lean hard on Doerue.

"He has made some big plays for us. If you give him some space, he'll run hard," Brohm said. "That's what he's got to continue to do, making sure he trusts the hole, trusting there's going to be one. If not, occasionally you have to ram it up in there."

and Miami's average of 3.1 yards is the NFL's worst.

"I hear the stats; I know what they are," Flores said. "Everyone is involved in the run game — backs, tight ends, receivers. I can pull up 20 runs right here today where if a receiver makes a block, it's a much longer run, and that average jumps a little bit. We all have to be better."

Ballage believes he'll benefit from a bigger workload.

"I've played all right," he said. "Opportunities have been slim. Moving forward, it's about getting in there and getting a rhythm and being able to touch the ball more."

Webb and Darah Watson had 11 and 10 points, respectively, to follow Bolser for Mississinewa while Riley McKee chipped in six and Kaiyah Jones four.

Hoover finished with almost half of the Norse's points on the night, leading the way with 15. Stout tallied eight while Addi Baker and Kenzie Baer had four apiece and Pennington two.

The loss is the largest margin of defeat for the Norse in a game since Nov. 19, 2016 when Northfield lost to Huntington North 58-40. It also snaps a 15-game regular-season winning streak that dated back to Dec. 1 of last season.

Northfield will travel to Western on Tuesday while Mississinewa will host Tip-ton on Saturday. Both games are slated for 7:30 p.m. starts.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Ohio State star DE Young, blames loan

BY MITCH STACY

AP Sports Writer

COLUMBUS, Ohio — No. 3 Ohio State announced Friday it will not play star defensive end Chase Young against Maryland this weekend amid concerns he violated NCAA rules by taking a loan last year from someone he describes as a "family friend."

The surprising move was disclosed in the team's status report and depth chart for Saturday's game. Ohio State said only that Young was being held out because of a "possible NCAA issue from last year" the athletic department is "looking into." The school did not elaborate or say how long he might be out.

Young, however, took to Twitter a short time later.

"I made a mistake last year by accepting a loan from a family friend I've known since the summer before my freshman year at OSU," he wrote on his verified Twitter account Friday morning. "I repaid it in full last summer and I'm working with the University and NCAA to get back on the field as soon as possible."

Tim Nevius, an attorney and former NCAA investigator, confirmed he is working with Young. He tweeted that Young "took a small loan from a close family friend last year to cover basic life expenses. Loan was repaid months ago and we're working to restore his eligibility."

The suspension has been the first hint of off-field trouble or any significant adversity for the Buckeyes, who are ranked No. 1 in the current playoff rank-

ings with legitimate hopes for a national championship in coach Ryan Day's first season in charge. A year ago, Ohio State had just emerged from a scandal that saw coach Urban Meyer suspended for three games for mismanaging domestic-abuse allegations against a former assistant coach.

Meyer, citing health reasons, retired at the end of the season, and Day was elevated to the top job. His team has rolled, winning every game by at least 24 points behind a prolific offense and a stingy defense.

Young, a 6-foot-5, 265-poiund junior from Hyattsville, Maryland, leads the nation in sacks with 13.5 after a dominant performance two weeks ago against Wisconsin that thrust him into the Heisman Trophy race. He was a preseason Associated Press All-American and is projected to be one of the first players taken in next year's NFL draft.

The Buckeyes are 42-point favorites against Maryland and will be heavily favored next week against Rutgers whether Young plays or not. Their final two games, however, will have Big Ten and national championship implications: at home against No. 5 Penn State and on the road against archrival No. 14 Michigan.

Nevius, a former college athlete at Dayton, also tweeted that "unfair and outdated NCAA rules punish athletes for making ends meet while enriching everyone else."

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Astros president Ryan shifts to lesser role with team

HOUSTON (AP) — Astros president Reid Ryan is shifting to a lesser role in the organization and owner Jim Crane's son is joining the executive team, moves announced 11 days after Crane apologized to a Sports Illustrated reporter and retracted a statement by the club accusing her of trying to "fabricate a story." Crane said Thursday he was bringing in his son, Jared, to get more experience and to help in the organization. Crane maintained the moves were not related to the incident with SI or the firing of an assistant general manager.

"It's a family issue. I have an older son that's very good, very bright, and has got some experience but he hasn't been around it, and I want to start teaching him," said Crane, who turns 66 in January and has owned the team for eight years. "I've been working a long time, and very hard a long time, and I have other stuff, and so he's just coming in to lend a hand."

The team said that Ryan's new role as executive ad-

viser of business relations will allow him "more opportunities to focus on his other business ventures while remaining an important part of the Astros organization."

Jim Crane said Ryan has done a good job for the Astros and will be helping his son and working with the executive team. Crane said it was a "very amicable" situation.

Ryan's father, Hall of Famer Nolan Ryan, told Fox 26 of Houston on Thursday that he was leaving his role as executive adviser that he had held since 2014.

"I will not be back with the club and will leave it at that," Ryan wrote in a text to the station.

Major League Baseball approved Crane's purchase of the club from Drayton McLane in November 2011. The Astros won the World Series title in 2017, then won 107 games during the regular season this year and got back to another World Series. They lost in Game 7 at home to the Washington Nationals last week.

IRISH

Continued from B1

onds left to beat the Hokies.

"If you lose your confidence here as a quarterback you can't play quarterback at Notre Dame," Kelly said. "There is just so much noise. ... Although it's difficult for everybody when you don't play particularly well, when you don't play particularly well, we felt like he had what it took to stand up to that. You know, he did, and he's come out on the other end and should be better for it."

IRISH RUNNERS

Notre Dame has barely had RBs Tony Jones and Jafar Armstrong fully healthy together all season, with Armstrong working his way back after tearing an abdominal muscle in the opener at Louisville and Jones missing the Virginia Tech win with a rib injury he suffered at Michigan.

"It would be great if Tony is ready to go and we expect him to," Kelly said. "We will get them both in the lineup and they both can contribute and be helpful for us. Be nice to have them."

PURDUE

Continued from B1

rank among the worst in the nation on offense — 128th of 130 teams overall and dead last in scoring. The last time the Wildcats scored a touchdown was in a 13-10 loss at Nebraska on Oct. 5. And in the three games since then, they've been shredded a combined 106-6 by Ohio State, Iowa and Indiana. Quarterback Aidan Smith got benched last week against the Hoosiers after a slow start. Hunter Johnson replaced him early in the second quarter and completed 7 of 17 passes for 65 yards before leaving with what appeared to be an injured right leg.

NEXT MAN UP

On Saturday, Aidan O'Connell will become the

COLTS

Continued from B1

in the first round of the 2002 draft, when critics described the selection as a "reach." But Freeney and his trademark spin move quickly became part of Colts lore.

"What did I learn from him? I learned not to spiral into a hole when you get beat because he used to pretty much have his way with me," longtime left tackle Anthony Castonzo said. "I just thank God I never had to play against him in a game."

MILESTONE MARKS

The Colts hope Freeney's induction won't be the only

major milestone they hit Sunday.

They need one more victory to reach 300 in the franchise's Indianapolis era.

And kicker Adam Vinatieri needs three field goal attempts to break Morten Andersen's league record (709), eight points to become the first Colts player to score 1,500 and one extra point to become the first player in franchise history with 500.

DEPLETED ROSTER

The Dolphins have lost four of their best players in the last two weeks.

Top cornerback Xavien Howard and leading receiver Preston Williams

INDIANS

Continued from B1

lengthened its lead to head into the second period up 15-6. It would be a tale of two quarters, though, as Mississinewa came out the aggressors in the period, scoring the first 13 points of the frame over the opening 4:42.

"I think we were just a little nervous," Friday said of the first period. "Our first game out, just trying to get a hang of things and feel the temperature of the game. But once they calmed their nerves down, it went well after that."

Northfield's first points of the period would not come until the 2:36 mark from Kearston Stout. By then, the Norse trailed 19-17. Caily

Bolser, who finished with a game-high 20 points, helped stretch the lead back out to nearly double digits as the Indians outscored Northfield 20-4 in the second period.

Bolser opened the second half with a layup for Mississinewa but Northfield's Emma Hoover would match her shot for shot in the period. Hoover connected on back-to-back threes to close the gap to 28-25 early in the frame. That, though, would be as close as Northfield would ever get the rest of the game.

While Hoover accounted for all 10 of the Norse's third-quarter points, Mississinewa only lengthened its lead in the period to double digits after a three-pointer from Alayna Webb. The guests drove the dagger home in the fourth by hold-

ing the Norse off the scoreboard for opening 5:34 of the period while opening the advantage up to 20 points at 49-29.

"Defense is our bread and butter," Friday said. "We try to focus on that a lot in practice. We know that we can stop teams defensively as long as we just hunker down and do it. I'm just really proud of how our team came out."

Baker scored Northfield's first basket of the fourth at the 2:26 mark and Emily Pennington converted a turnover into a score for the only other points of the quarter. After scoring 15 points in the opening period, Northfield managed 18 points the remainder of the contest while managing just four points in each the second and fourth periods.

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